GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4376
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Computerisation of Courts
Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

a) whether Government has declared a National Policy and an action plan for computerisation of all the courts of the country for providing assistance in getting quick, qualitative and affordable justice;
b) if so, the main features of this scheme; and
c) the extent to which this policy or action plan has been implemented in various courts of the country as on date?

Answer

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(Shri P.P.Chaudhary)

(a) The National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology in the Indian Judiciary, prepared by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has got approval of the Chief Justice of India. Following the guidelines set under the Policy, the Government of India has launched the eCourts Mission Mode Project for Information and Communication Technology Enablement of Indian Judiciary for providing assistance in getting quick, qualitative and affordable justice.
(b) Key features of the Project include provisioning of basic infrastructure for ICT enablement which consists of various modules, primarily such as computer hardware, Local Area Network (LAN), internet connectivity and installation of standard application software at each court complex and upgradation of ICT Infrastructure of Supreme Court and all High Courts / Benches. It also includes provision of laptops to judicial officers and imparting ICT training to them. Process Re-engineering exercises have been conducted by the High Courts which involve fundamental re-thinking and re-designing of judicial processes to bring about a significant improvement in performance. Additional features of the Project include delivery of the services, inter alia, case registration, causelists, daily case status, and final order/judgment. Further, e-filing of cases, e-payment of court fees, process service through email and through process servers having hand held devices, receipt of digitally signed copies of judgments are also some of the services.
(c) Under the Phase-II of the Project (2015-2019), the Government has released Rs.475.10 crores so far. Judicial proceedings/ decisions of computerised district and subordinate courts of the country are available on the e-Courts portal (http://www.ecourts.gov.in). The portal provides online services to litigants such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders, and final judgments. As per the information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (given by respective courts), there are 16,934 computerised courts in the country as on 1st December, 2016. Currently litigants can access case status information in respect of over 7.8 crore pending and decided cases and more than 4 crore orders/judgements pertaining to these computerised district and subordinate courts. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 493 courts and 342 prisons under the Project. Judicial Service Centres (JSC) have been established at all computerised courts which serve as a single window for filing petitions and applications by litigants/ lawyers as also obtaining information on ongoing cases and copies of orders and judgments etc. As part of the Change Management exercise, over 14,000 Judicial Officers and over 4,000 court staff have been trained in CIS software. Furthermore, for the benefit of litigants and lawyers, as many as 7.24 crore system-generated SMSs have been sent to the litigants and lawyers.